

F 22. (New) A kit for detecting active human parathyroid hormone (hPTH) comprising ^{a container and} a first group of antibodies or antibody fragments and a second group of antibodies or antibody fragments, wherein the first group selectively binds a peptide of hPTH selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 1 - 6 and the second group selectively binds hPTH at an epitope contained within amino acids 24 to 37.

E 23. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the second group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively binds a peptide of hPTH selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 18 - 36.

23 24. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 1.

4 25. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 2.

5 26. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 3.

4 27. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 4.

7 28. (New) The kit of Claim 22, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 5.

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(New) The kit of Claim 29, wherein the first group of antibodies or antibody fragments selectively bind peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 6.

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(New) An immunological method of detecting active human parathyroid hormone (hPTH) in a sample comprising:

contacting the sample with a first antibody or antibody fragment which selectively binds a peptide of hPTH selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 1 - 6;

contacting the sample with a second antibody or antibody fragment which selectively binds hPTH at an epitope contained within amino acids 24 to 37; and

detecting the binding of the first and second antibodies or antibody fragments, wherein the binding of the first and second antibodies or antibody fragments indicates the presence of active hPTH in the sample.

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(New) The method of Claim 30, wherein the second antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds a peptide of hPTH selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 18 - 36.

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(New) The method of Claim 30, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 1.

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(New) The method of Claim 30, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 2.

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34. (New) The method of Claim ¹⁹~~30~~, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 3.

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35. (New) The method of Claim ¹⁹~~30~~, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 4.

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36. (New) The method of Claim ¹⁹~~30~~, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 5.

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37. (New) The method of Claim ¹⁹~~30~~, wherein the first antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds peptides of hPTH having SEQ. ID. No. 6.

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38. (New) A composition comprising an antibody or antibody fragment and a suitable carrier, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds a peptide of human parathyroid hormone (hPTH) selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 1 - 6.

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39. (New) The composition of Claim ¹⁷~~38~~, wherein the composition further comprises a second antibody or antibody fragment, wherein the second antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds hPTH at an epitope contained within amino acids 24 to 37.

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40. (New) The composition of Claim ¹⁷~~39~~, wherein the second antibody or antibody fragment selectively binds a peptide of hPTH selected from the group consisting of peptides having SEQ. ID. Nos. 18 - 36.